

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

26 MAY 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Soviet ballistic missile launched from submerged submarine

[redacted] 50X1
observed the launching of a ballistic missile from a submerged submarine in the Barents Sea on April 26. This gives us our first solid indication that the Soviets have such a capability. 50X1

[redacted] also saw traces of a similar launching on April 16. Firings on both dates [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1
another launching on May 15, possibly to a distance of 2,000 nautical miles. We believe that these activities represent the initial operational testing of a new weapons system. [redacted]

2. East-West German trade proposals

[redacted] 50X1
The East Germans have made overtures to Bonn for credits, on the order of some \$700 million, for the purchase of West German goods. Our mission in Berlin, somewhat chagrined at Bonn's apparent slowness in grasping the political implications of these overtures, calls attention to the possibility of linking the East German needs to Berlin access and increasing the dependence of East on West Germany.

3. Portugal

[REDACTED] a. New anti-government demonstrations are being promoted for Monday 50X1
and most indications are that they will
will be the most serious yet. The gov-
ernment sees some hope that its troubles
will slacken if it can get the better
of this next outburst, but [REDACTED] 50X1

[REDACTED] the idea that Salazar has 50X1
had his day is spreading and has now
begun to infect even the military.

b. Radio Free Europe people
in Portugal do not expect the govern-
ment to renew their agreement when it
runs out in December. [REDACTED] 50X1
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4. Laos

a. The first encounter between government and enemy units in the Ban Houei Sai area since the town was evacuated occurred yesterday. A government patrol (26 Laotian army men and 4 US advisors) ran into an enemy force of 100-150 men about 25 miles northeast of Ban Houei Sai and were forced to fall back some 10 miles to prepared positions.

b. For the second day running, Phoumi was at work demonstrating an awakened interest in military matters. In this instance, it was a conference with military aides at Savannakhet in the south.

c. Simultaneously, however, Phoumi and his supporters in Vientiane were still feeding the story that the US had demanded his resignation into as many outlets as they could reach, even after our embassy in Vientiane had made a flat denial.

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5. Cuba

Although it is still too early to draw any firm conclusions, we are seeing more and more signs that Castro's current moves against veteran Communists may lead to serious problems with the USSR.

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6. Netherlands - West
New Guinea

a. Debate in the Dutch lower house wound up yesterday with the government conceding its willingness to resume negotiations with the Indonesians on the basis of the Bunk formula. The government stands on its insistence that in so doing it is not committing itself in advance on the question of transfer of administration.

b. A Dutch transport unloaded 800 troop reinforcements in West New Guinea yesterday, as officials there reported word of another large Indonesian paratroop drop.

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For The President Only—Top Secret

NOTES

- A. The short-lived calm in Guatemala could be broken within the next few days. The ex-army men responsible for the guerrilla outbreak earlier this year are winding up for another try. [redacted]
- B. Ghana's Nkrumah will be aiming at attracting some new converts to his brand of African nationalism at a conference of leaders from still-dependent territories due to open in Accra next week. Angola and Portugal's other African dependencies are likely to be high on the agenda. [redacted]
- C. The Dominican government will feel better when May 30, the anniversary of Trujillo's assassination, has gone by. Reports have been reaching Santo Domingo that the Trujillo family is planning some kind of unpleasant memorial. [redacted]

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DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE